Draft Roadmap for Implementation of 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Arab Region

1. Background
2. The Executive Board of the Arab Roundtable on SCP
3. Roles of 10YFP National Focal Points and Stakeholders Focal Points
   a. National Focal Points
   b. Stakeholders Focal Points for the 10YFP
4. Role of the Technical Secretariat of the Executive Board of Arab Roundtable on SCP
5. Role of the Executive Board of the Arab Roundtable on SCP
6. Interaction between the Executive Board of the Arab Roundtable on SCP and the 10YFP Secretariat and board
7. Milestones for Implementation 10YFP on SCP in the Arab Countries
   a. Communication
   b. Institutionalization of the SCP Strategy
   c. Prioritization of SCP measures and policies and development of executable work plan
   d. Raising fund for implementing SCP projects/programmes
   e. Operationalization/implementation 10YFP programme
   f. Monitoring and evaluation SCP initiative and projects contributing to 10YFP programmes

1. Background

Transition to sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns has been identified as a key priority by the international community since the World Summit on Sustainable Development (2002). Ten years later at the UN Rio+20 Conference (2012), SCP was recognised as an essential requirement for sustainable development. In Rio+20, the Ten Year Framework of Programmes on SCP (10YFP, 2012-2022) was adopted to enhance international/regional cooperation and to accelerate the shift towards SCP in both developed and developing countries (Outcome document: The Future we Want, paragraph 226). The 10YFP is a global framework of action to enhance international cooperation to accelerate the shift towards SCP in both developed and developing countries. The framework will support capacity building, and facilitate access to
technical and financial assistance for developing countries for this shift. The framework will encourage innovation and cooperation among all stakeholders.

UNEP has been requested to serve as the 10YFP Secretariat and to establish and administer a Trust Fund to support SCP implementation in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. ECOSOC has been nominated as the interim reporting body. A Small board is being nominated, composed of 10-member consisting of two members of each UN regional group.

The 10YFP Inter-Agency Coordination Group “IACG” has been established. The member list (as of 16 May 2013) of the 10YFP IACG is as follows: UNCTAD, UNDESA, UNDP, UNECLAC, UNEP, UNESCAP, UNESCO, ESCWA, FAO, UN Habitat, UNICEF, UNIDO, ILO, ITC, UNOPS, UNU, UN Women, UNWFP, UNWTO. The first meeting of IACG has been held in Paris (21-22 May 2013).

As mandated by the outcome of Rio+20 and aiming to accelerate the shift to SCP patterns and to respond in a more coherent and synergistic manner to cooperation and coordination at the national, regional and international levels, most countries have named their respective 10YFP National Focal Points (NFP) and Alternates. The 10YFP NFPs are the contact points for information and coordination with the Secretariat and the Board of the 10YFP. They share information on the 10YFP and enhance coordination and cooperation on SCP within their respective countries across different ministries and with all stakeholders. They contribute to the 10YFP implementation, facilitating their respective country’s participation in SCP partnerships and initiatives, and submits national proposals to the Trust Fund.

2. The Executive Board of the Arab Roundtable on SCP

Based on the above background and to fulfil the requirements of Rio+20 regarding the 10YFP, there is a need to enhance the existing regional mechanism, “the Temporary Secretariat for the Arab Roundtable on SCP” by establishing an “Executive Board of the Arab Roundtable on SCP” to accelerate the shift towards SCP in the Arab region during the period covered by the 10YFP (2012-2022). This executive Council will enhance regional coordination and action to strengthen cooperation between concerned stakeholders to support implementation of the 10YFP in the region, in addition, it will serve as regional platform to support implementation of the 10YFP and coordinate action with its Secretariat and the Board. This Executive Board will bring together existing initiatives and partnerships and support the development of new ones to promote SCP approach in the Arab countries. The main objectives of which will:
Ensuring greater visibility of the 10YFP on SCP as a key Rio+20 implementation mechanism in the Arab region, and ensuring stakeholders are updated and involved;

Promoting effective contribution and enhancing coordination between concerned SCP parties to accelerate the shift towards SCP in the Arab countries and supporting the implementation of the 10YFP;

Supporting Arab governments and other stakeholders’ efforts on shifting to SCP patterns, through increasing cooperation, joint action and experience exchange, information and knowledge sharing, capacity building and awareness, and fund raising, contributing to the 10YFP.

The Executive Board should focus on initial programmes of the 10YFP, building on the achievements of the Marrakesh Process: 1) Consumer information; 2) Sustainable lifestyles and education; 3) Sustainable public procurement (SPP); 4) Sustainable buildings and construction (SBC); 5) Sustainable tourism, including ecotourism. It is possible to request for the development of additional programmes based on regional and global demands. For example, the Arab region could suggest a new Global Programme addressing some of the themes and priority sectors addressed by the Arab Regional Strategy for SCP, like integrated and sustainable water management clean and sustainable energy and energy efficiency, cleaner and sustainable production, sustainable and organic agriculture, integrated sustainable waste management.

The UNEP/Regional Office for West Asia is expected to be secretariat of the Executive Board of Arab Roundtable on SCP. The Board would include concerned stakeholders “mainly, member countries/National Focal Points and regional organizations/LAS, ESCWA, CEDARE, ANCPCs…etc.

3. Roles of the 10YFP National focal Point and Stakeholders focal Points:

a. National Focal Points:

The 10YFP text adopted at the Rio+20 Conference invites governments to designate focal points, as follows (A/CONF.216/5 - paragraph 4.d): “Governments should be invited to designate sustainable consumption and production focal points for engagement with the 10-year framework of programmes, with a view to ensuring contact and coordination with the board and the secretariat”.

In response to this, UNEP as 10YFP Secretariat has invited all governments to designate sustainable consumption and production focal points for engagement with the 10-year framework of programmes, with a view to ensuring contact and coordination with the board and the secretariat. By end of May 2013, over 100 countries nominated their national focal point and alternate. In the Arab region almost all countries nominated their focal point.

Based on guidelines provided by the 10YFP Secretariat, the National Focal Points (NFP) could play the following role:
- Support the vision, objectives and goals of the 10YFP.
- Share information on the 10YFP and enhance coordination and cooperation on SCP within the country with different ministries and stakeholders.
- Be the contact point for information and coordination with the Secretariat and the Board of the 10YFP.
- Contribute to the 10YFP implementation, including facilitate the country’s participation in SCP partnerships and initiatives, and meetings, workshops and activities under the 10YFP.
- Support work and activities of the “10YFP Programmes” at regional, national and local levels, including by facilitating the active participation of relevant/qualified experts.
- Exchange and disseminate relevant information on SCP plans, programmes activities, initiatives, events to national counterparts and stakeholders, and partners at the regional and international levels, through inter alia, the Global SCP Clearinghouse, which will serve as the information and knowledge platform of the 10YFP.
- Facilitate and where appropriate take the lead and actively pursue SCP implementation efforts at the country level, including facilitation of national roundtables or workshops on SCP.
- Be the channel for information on the activities under the 10YFP, and provide timely feedback on reports and requests from the 10YFP Board and Secretariat as necessary.
- Be the focal point which submits national proposals to the Trust Fund (in the case of developing countries and economies in transition).

All regions will have the opportunity to revise this guidelines and add new ones as necessarily, responding to their national and regional context and willingness to be actively engaged.

b. Stakeholders Focal Points for the 10YFP

The 10YFP foresees as well stakeholders Focal Points on SCP to support the for the 10YFP. The Secretariat is preparing invitation for the nomination process. The Arab region will make sure that there is an active engagement of all relevant stakeholders in the SCP activities supporting the implementation of the 10YFP.

4. Role of the Technical Secretariat of the Executive Board of Arab Roundtable on SCP

- Encouraging and enhancing cooperation and coordination among all concerned parties “national focal points, regional organizations ….etc.) to support the implementation of SCP strategies/programmes in the Arab region;
- Organizing and convening the meetings/events/activities in consultation with other partners and in close coopeation with the 10YFP Secretariat and Board;
- Drafting, circulating, finalizing and disseminating documents/reports produced by the Executive Board or related to its work (agendas, information notes, minutes, reports,… etc.), as appropriate; and provide regional inputs requested by the 10YFP Secretarit and Board,
o Support consultation for the development and launching of the SCP projects/programmes; and contributing (or co-managing) the Global SCP Clearinghouse (online information platform for SCP related issues).

o Identifying opportunities for the SCP projects/programmes in convening working groups and for trainings at regional and national levels; this should be based on the countries and stakeholders’ demand and need.

o Support fund raising for SCP activities and projects implementation.

o Maintaining SCP master file of relevant documents, correspondence, and meeting materials, during 10YFP.

o Establishing and liaising with media to enhance awareness concerning 10YFP in the region.

o Provide technical assistance, through NFPs, to countries concerning 10YFP.

o Assist countries to formulate regional programmes under 10YFP.

5. Role of the Executive Board of the Arab Roundtable on SCP

- Sharing with UNEP and other partners “particularly member countries” the vision, objectives and goals of the 10YFP on SCP.
- Contribution to disseminating SCP information, best practices, initiatives, lessons learned and indicators among member countries; this could be through information/knowledge platform for SCP.
- Providing, whenever possible, member countries with information on existing funding opportunities “e.g. 10YFP Trust Fund” to support implementation of SCP projects/programmes in Arab region.
- Participating in SCP events including roundtables/meetings/workshops/conferences at national, regional and international levels, and providing technical papers in these events, as appropriate.
- Support Arab countries in capacity building and awareness raising, and facilitating access to providing technical assistance in SCP activities, as appropriate.
- Mainstreaming SCP approach into sustainable development policies, programmes and strategies in the Arab region.
- Through national focal points, will provide technical support to member countries in preparation of SCP strategies and programmes, and accelerating the shift towards SCP through supporting implementation of SCP policies, programmes and initiatives in the region.

6. Interaction between the Executive Board of the Arab Roundtable on SCP and the 10YFP Secretariat and board

- The Executive Board will be providing information to the representatives of the “UN African Group” and/or “Asian Group” representing the Arab countries.
- Will be supporting the organization of 10YFP meetings, trainings and workshops and other regional events.
- Provide inputs to the requested reports (e.g. progress report of the 10YFP and its programmes).
7. Milestones for Implementation 10YFP on SCP in the Arab countries

a. Communication

Communication is the first step towards implementation SCP strategy. The communication process should start with disseminating the content of the Regional and/or national SCP strategy (programmes/activities) to different stakeholders to obtain their support for implementation. The purpose of communication is to provide information/data, build SCP programme credibility and ensure stakeholder commitment to the implementation process. Efficient communication should always be two-way - including also receiving feedback from stakeholders – and it requires the use of a wide range of different communication mechanisms and means such as seminars, workshops, leaflets, brochures, TV, radio, web pages and databases. Smart use of public media is an effective way of reaching a large spectrum of society. Also, broad media awareness will increase the political importance of the SCP programmes. Communication should display a message saying “SCP is a shared priority in a country and should be taken seriously”.

Communication plan should be developed by a multi-stakeholder team, and should define communication objectives, target groups (government, suppliers, individual, NGOs, public/private sectors ...etc). The communication could be internal or external. The internal communication aims mainly to dissemination of the information related to SCP action plan; and getting the staff committed to and qualified for implementing SCP Programmes. While external communication focuses on: building credibility and political importance – communicating to key stakeholders, suppliers, and financers - contributing to SCP databases websites/clearing housing - publishing monitoring and evaluation reports related to SCP on regular bases.

b. Institutionalization of the SCP Strategy

Because SCP is a cross-cutting issue and cannot therefore simply be delegated to public authorities alone, proper institutionalization, governance and partnership are crucial in implementation of SCP strategy at national level. A national coordination body with specific responsibilities should be established for the overall coordination of the implementation SCP projects/programmes. After that, the implementation agencies responsible for delivering concrete actions should be defined. In this regard, it is important to define how all concerned parties will interact with each other, since unclear governance arrangements will create major risks against proper implementation. In fact, there are several means to strengthen the institutionalization of the SCP projects/programmes, among these: a) assuring that the SCP projects/programmes has high level political support, b) implementing SCP projects/programmes should be within the frame of national development strategy, c) strengthening SCP capacities and knowledge within the implementation agencies through training, guidance and research and d) applying SCP policy instruments and issuing SCP regulations.

c. Prioritization of SCP measures and policies and development of executable work plan.

The measures and policies identified in SCP strategies are not usually sufficiently elaborated upon to begin the implementation process straight away based on the strategy document alone. Therefore, the priority areas of SCP programme should be identified and listed in executable
document which defines specific project tasks, stakeholders and responsibility, deliverables, execution timelines and the required human, financial and other resources for each priority area. Executable documents should also include SWOT analysis (Strength, Weakness, Opportunities, Threats) for each priority area. National teams “at country/city levels” are expected to take the lead in the preparation of executable document for each area, and UNEP, ESCWA, LAS and other organizations can provide any necessary technical assistance in this regard.

All concerned stakeholders/suppliers should participate in prioritization process that should be based on economical, environmental, social and technical criteria, and should be carried out in light of resource limitations/constrains in the country. To build the credibility of the SCP programme at national level, first priority should be given to initiative and projects contributing to 10YFP programmes that are feasible and have high probability of success within available resources.

d. Raising fund for implementing SCP projects/programmes

Raising fund for implementation SCP projects/programmes is not easy step; since it needs long way to prepare the related documents and finalize the procedures; in addition it requires strong communications to cover donor requirements. SCP funding can be obtained through internal/national budged mechanisms; or by funding from grant-making bodies/foundations, development agencies and other external sources. SCP initiative and projects contributing to 10YFP programmes that is going to be implemented may require adaptation to go with the donor conditions and preferences. One way to facilitate resource mobilization for SCP initiative and projects contributing to 10YFP programmes is by mainstreaming SCP initiatives within national development plans and priorities, and by building linkages between SCP initiative and projects contributing to 10YFP programmes and processes aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

e. Operationalization/implementation 10YFP programme,

SCP project operationalisation refers to the process of transforming the executable documents “item 3” into actual projects. To operationalise/implement any SCP project, concerned stakeholders should track the following key steps:

- **Starting dialogues and communication**: mainly with decision makers, local and international stakeholders, development partners and other parties
- **Stakeholders Cooperation**: Based on “win-win” cooperation, partnerships should be established between multi-stakeholders to implement SCP initiative and projects contributing to 10YFP programmes
- **Effective Institutional Structure**: Assuring effective implementation with clear institutional set-up and integrating priorities of SCP initiative and projects contributing to 10YFP programmes into national development strategies.
- **Progress Measurement**: Defining timeframe, resources required, and procedures for measuring progress achieved on SCP initiative and projects contributing to 10YFP programmes.
- **Policy Instruments for SCP**: Defining policy instruments to support implementation; mainly those related to pricing, economics, environmental, social and capacity building instruments.
• **Capacity Development**: Enhancing and strengthening the capacity of all stakeholders related to the implementation of SCP initiative and projects contributing to 10YFP programmes.

• **Replication/scaling out & up**: Good practices should be identified during SCP programme implementation and scaled out and up. Scaling out refers to replication of good SCP practices identified in other projects within the same country or in other countries implementing similar SCP programmes. Scaling up refers to applying good practices to strengthen and enhance the same SCP project.

**f. Monitoring and evaluation SCP initiative and projects contributing to 10YFP programmes**

Monitoring and evaluation are essential in correction and avoiding expected obstacles along SCP Programme. Monitoring/evaluation process is an on-going task that covers all the phases. Evaluation is done after the SCP projects have been concluded. This means undertaking an assessment of whether the overall goals of the SCP programme have been achieved. Based on the results of the monitoring and evaluation the SCP programme should be revised and corrected.